

## Security and safety issues

*From the Minutes of September, 1974*

*Winter patrol.* It is requested that all cottagers number their cottages in accordance with the numbers designated as Lot # shown in the left hand column of the List of Property owners distributed at the meeting. The numbers should be highly visible to facilitate identification and notification of the proper owners in case of problems. Two property owners have volunteered to carry out winter patrols but it should be made the concern of all property owners to report any situation they may uncover.

*From the Minutes of June 29, 1975*

The President, on behalf of all the owners, thanked Ken Conlin and Rick Stubblefield for their winter patrol work. There have been no reports of theft or property damage. Owners are reminded to have their cottages numbered corresponding to the list issued in 1974 for ease of identification and owner notification in case of trouble.

*From the Minutes of July 4, 1976*

Ken Jackson, on behalf of association members thanked Ken Conlin, Bill Oliver & Rick Stubblefield for their winter patrol work.

*From the Minutes of July 3, 1977*

*Winter Patrol.* Denton Wilson thanked the ski-doo operators and cross-country skiers for checking on the cottages during the winter. With regard to the letter from Hern Security offering their services for winter patrol, it was felt that any owner wishing to do so could approach Mr. HERN on an individual basis. Denton Wilson read part of an article concerning the patrolling of cottages by the OPP and mentioned that a new pamphlet had been put out recently by the OPP on the subject and was available to those interested from Provincial Constable S.W. Baker, Community Services Office, Sharbot Lake Detachment, Tel. 279-2195. The association will be forwarding a list of cottage owners to the OPP to aid in their program. We have a cottage numbering system in operation so please designate your cottage clearly.

*Fire Protection.* In Harold Bimm's absence, Denton Wilson read a letter from the South Sherbrooke Fire Department to Mr. Bimm requesting funds from the Property Owners' Association to assist in the purchase of a small truck and other equipment which would be able to come in the north and south shore roads. Ken Jackson moved that the Executive be authorized to approach the South Sherbrooke Fire Chief to get further details as to the number of cottages and cottagers to be served by the new equipment. He further moved that a sum of up to \$200 be pledged by the Little Silver Lake Property Owners Association to the Fire Department, payable if and when the equipment is purchased. The motion was seconded by Chuck Leighton. Carried.

In order to more easily identify the north shore road for the OPP and the Fire Department in the case of emergency, it was moved by Mary Ann Jackson and seconded by Denton Wilson that a sign be erected at the County Road entrance identifying the North Shore Road as "Silvery Lane". Carried.

*From the Minutes of July 2, 1978*

*Winter Patrol.* With the departure of Rick Stubblefield, the winter patrol the past winter was not officially organized. This fact does not prevent the program from continuing with everyone doing their share. The intent is to keep an eye on the cottages to report any damages not prevent break ins. Two break ins did occur, either early Spring or late last Fall.

Numbering cottages was once again discussed. It was agreed that the North Road Cottagers would use the prefix "N", South Road "S". Numbers should be placed at the road entrance to their cottage, as well as

on the cottage.

*Fire Protection.* Bruce Pedden read a letter received from the Township, thanking the Association for the donation of \$200.00 towards the purchase of the tank truck to service lake properties. During the discussion that followed, it was mentioned that the nearest phone is at the home of Shirley Deacon, 1 mile south on the county road. Bruce pedden indicated he has installed a C.B. radio unit which could be used in emergencies.

The most important thing, should a fire start, is to control the spread to adjacent cottages and the bush. A bucket brigade would be of some help. Members were reminded that an emergency signal was agreed upon at the second annual meeting – namely the continuous blowing of a car horn. Anyone hearing a long blast of a car horn should respond immediately and lend assistance.

*From the Minutes of July 1, 1979*

*Letter of Thanks.* It was recommended from the floor that the Executive send a letter of thanks to the Ontario Provincial Police detachment, Perth, for their winter patrol conducted on our lake area. This letter will be sent by the Secretary-Treasurer on behalf of the association.

*From the Minutes of July 5, 1981*

*Ethics.* There was considerable discussion by the executive and members about having open fires on property and dangers of such practice. Members must use extreme caution in dealing with fire. In the Township of South Sherbrooke, fire permits are required from March to October.

*From the Minutes of July 4, 1982*

*New business.* Ken Jackson reminded all cottagers of the emergency signal to be used in cases of fire or other emergencies on the Lake (continuous sounding of car horn). He also advised all present of the availability at his cottage of a gas driven water pump which could be used in case of a fire.

Denton Wilson advised those present that the Township's request for funds for a firehall will be satisfied through an adjustment to the general mill rate (2 mills).

*From the Minutes of July 3, 1983*

The President [Clay Hiltz] ... concluded his remarks by reminding cottagers of the dry conditions which had been prevailing and that extra precaution should be taken against fire during the summer.

There were 6 break-ins at the Lake during the past year along Silvery Lane. It occurred in November. There were minor thefts reported, including tapes, an antenna, and some electronic equipment. In one case, the individual(s) went through a door. The OPP during the investigation suggested cottagers could install dead-bolts on their doors and bars on their windows. Bert Ringrose suggested bars on the window would not be too much protection against intruders.

Mike Lotan mentioned, that he had visited the Perth Detachment, written them a letter of appreciation and asked them to continue the periodic patrols of the Lake in the coming year. He also, on advice from one of the constables, sent to the Perth detachment a list of property owners on both sides of the lake along with a map.

Nancy Davies reported that Peter Bernie checks her cottage periodically and he is offering a regular surveillance service to cottagers on the lake. The frequency of such checks can be arranged with him and his price varies accordingly. Further details will either be included with the minutes or can be obtained by calling the Secretary-Treasurer.

Gun controls were discussed briefly. Clay Hiltz and Mike Lotan reported they had met with the South Sherbooke Council separately on the matter. There was some support on council for some type of gun

control by-law in the built-up area on the RS and RS-2 zones around the lake. Everyone agreed there would be problems in drafting a by-law and there is some confusion as to how it would be enforced and by whom. One or two property owners had a reservations about a by-law. There could be some occasions where a gun might be required as protection against rodents or rabid animals. Ed Mills reported that he had seen a black bear on the South side road several days before the meeting. Further enquiries into a model gun control by-law will be pursued by the Secretary-Treasurer with Lands and Forests at Carleton Place.

*From the Minutes of July 1, 1984*

Adrien Gervais mentioned that the Silvery Lane sign has disappeared. It was agreed that it would be found or a new one should be erected. This would aid the Fire Department or the Police if they were called. A similar sign was discussed for the South-shore road. Joe Legari mentioned that he had discussed the idea of putting up a sign at the entrance to the south-side road but that he had encountered opposition to the idea. Some property owners felt that it would attract more traffic into their area.

Ken Matheson opposed the idea of a sign at the SS road and pointed out that the locals know the two roads anyway. It was agreed that the matter should be considered further. Joe Legari suggested that when the area representative contacts owners to update the listing they could get opinions on the need for a sign at the entrance of the road at the same time.

The "Warning Children at Play" sign on Silvery Lane needs to be repainted. Denton Wilson had arranged to get the sign in the first place and volunteered to have it redone.

*From the Minutes of July 7, 1985*

[The President, Ed Mills] went on comment in general about some of the things that had occurred around the lake during the previous year. These included the problems with breakins, the high water levels as the result of the local beaver population, fishing out of season, and the motor boats on the lake.

*BREAKINS AND THEFTS ON THE LAKE.* The problem of breakins was then discussed. The OPP is now doing 1 or 2 checks per year around the lake. Art Theriault indicated that he had met with the OPP in Perth regarding the problem.

They wer unable to come up with any concrete suggestions at the time other than for cottagers to securely close and lock all windows and doors and to take all valuables such as stereos, TVs and radios etc. home at the end of the summer season.

The material which had been passed onto the police regarding the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of owners along with the maps showing benchmark locations had apparently been misplaced.

The Police were not supportive of the idea of offering a reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of individuals caught breaking into and stealing items from cottages.

There was a lengthy discussion on the matter. It was concluded that late fall and early spring are the favorite periods for these activities. It was generally agreed that a program of self-help may be the best approach at this time and that all property owners should be on the alert when they are at their cottages or driving into their properties for strange cars, trucks, or vans.

Property owners should note and record the licence numbers and description of any strange cars or trucks parked on properties or using the road both during the day and at night.

In addition, it was suggested that all windows and doors of cottages and trailers should be securely closed and locked, and all valuables should be marked with some type of code such as the SIN and, at the end of the summer, be taken home.

The matter of hiring someone to patrol the area during the spring and fall was discussed and it was agreed the Executive should investigate the possibilities further.

Ken Anderson suggested that perhaps a fund of \$200 could be raised to pay for such a service and that

he would be prepared to contribute even if others didn't.

The Secretary-Treasurer agreed to follow up on the matter and to investigate some alternatives.

*From the Minutes of July 6, 1986*

3. South Side Road Report (Joe Legari)

*Gate installation.* Expenses incurred:

Key and lock and chain cost \$302.49

Gate cost including installation \$200.00. Total cost \$503.39

Revenue

Key sales to owners \$202.00

Value of paid key inventory on hand \$138.00

Eventual cost of gate \$163.39

7. *Cottage break-ins.* In addition to the numerous break-ins and thefts on the North Shore last fall, this spring, one cottage lost furniture and a chained motor was stolen from a wharf in June. (A second motor has been stolen since the annual meeting.]

The installation of gates on the north shore was discussed at length. Joe Legari commented that the South shore gate may have to be re-located to the North side of the public launch area. He pointed out that in the fall, a large number of hunters have been using the road as access and that the locked gate may solve the problem. The gate will be locked after Labour Day. On autumn weekends, the gate should be locked by the next person leaving after 4 p.m. on Sunday night.

Motion to install a gate and lock for Silvery Lane. Moved by Adrian Gervais, Seconded by Shirley Leighton. Motion carried unanimously.

A committee of north-siders will be formed to install the gate.

*From the Minutes of July 5, 1987*

*North Gate Report.* It was agreed at the last minute that a gate should be installed. The gate will be produced at cost by Marcel malette and installed by volunteer help.

Total cost \$167.77

Cost of Lock & 85 keys \$308.58

[Total] \$476.35

All property owners contributed \$15.00 plus \$4.00 each for extra keys. Surplus funds credited to Road Account. For extra keys – contact Ken Jackson (\$4.50 per key).

The extra padlocks on both the North and South Gates are for access by Ontario Hydro.

The suggested gate control dates and hours met with the approval of the meeting.

*From the Minutes of July 10, 1988*

*Security.* Paul Pospisil introduced the first guest speaker, Const. Neil Fennell, the Community Relations Officer for the Perth Branch of the O.P.P. Neil gave an informative talk on the problems of theft and vandalism in cottage areas. He stressed the need to make constant checks on properties, particularly during off-seasons. Attractive, saleable items should be removed at close-up. Make the cottages look as inhabited as possible, summer and winter. Take note of strangers, license plate numbers, etc. when suspicious.

Neil fielded questions on a number of security problems. He feels that well controlled main road gates are a significant deterrent to most types of theft. Paul Pospisil thanked Const. Fennell on behalf of the meeting.

*Gate control.* A lively discussion on gate control disclosed differences of opinion on gate closing time on Sunday nights, and on the advisability of keeping the gate locked through the week year-round. It was pointed out that in the past, most thefts took place in the Spring and Fall, and that since the gate was installed in 1986, there have been no reported break-ins. A clear majority of residents present voted in favour of keeping the present gate operating rules in effect.

*Road safety.* The subject of speeding on Silvery Lane and the danger of accidents was discussed at length. A motion by Art Chivers-Wilson seconded by Bruce Pedden, that signs be posted in an attempt to slow traffic, was adopted.

*Little Silver Lake Road.* When the problem of recent thefts and poor gate control was raised, Jean Hollebone suggested that the present control system be strongly supported by the users, rather than introducing more restrictive measures. The members agreed to this approach, and all users are urged to conform.

*Gate control for Both Roads.* From July 1, 1988 to Labour Day – Gates Open  
From labour Day to Thanksgiving and 24 May to 1 July – Gates locked 6 pm Sunday open Friday pm  
From Thanksgiving to 24 May – Gates always locked

*From the Minutes of July 1, 1990*

*Little Silver Lake Road Gate.* The President had advised that [South Sherbrooke Township] Council advised that we move our gate to the north side of the launching area so the public launching area is available for the general public. The Executive will be discussing this motion and contacting the Council with out recommendation.

*New Business.* Edward and Diane Bain expressed strong objections to the closing of the gate on Little Silver Lake Road during the weeks in the spring and fall. They have been inconvenienced in the delivery of building magterials and receiving guests.

members cited the dramatic reduction in breakins following the installation of the two gates. The need to continue the present gate schedule was expressed by numerous association members.

*From the Minutes of July 30, 1991*

*New Business.* Ken Jackson agreed to have repairs carried out to the gagate on Silvery Lane. It was noted that there had been no break-ins on Silvery Lane for the past four years since the gate was installed. Everyone's cooperation is required to ensure that the gagate control policy is maintained.

*From the Minutes of July 5, 1992*

Mr. [Jack] Monachan [Deputy Reeve of South Sherbrooke Township] advised that the gate on Fire Lane #7 [Little Silver Lake Road] had to be left open or moved east of the public access point to launch boats and to enable emergency vehicles access. Our concerns which include cottage security, boating safety and the possible introduction of zebra mussels, were discussed. It was suggested that our concerns should be outlined to the whole council with a view to finding a mutually acceptable position. Mr.Monachan also advised that since the township is insisting on an open gate, that it would contribute towards road maintenance.

*Rainbow Lane Road Report.* Marina Leullier reported that a gate had been installed and was working well with everyone's cooperation.

*Gate Locking.* A general discussion was held concerning the gates. Additional keys are available from Stu Wellman at a cost of \$5 each. Bruce Pedden advised that some cottage associations are locking their gates at 10 or 11 PM in the summer because of a high incidence of break and enters. The OPP will press charges of trespassing ona lane, ie Silvery Lane, Rainbow lane, which is considered private but not on a road, ie Silver Lake Road. Harry Simpson advised that his car had been burglarized last summer while parked in his driveway. The gate control policy remains in effect for Rainbow and Silvery Lanes. It is suspended for

Silver Lake Road until further discussions are held with the township.

*From the Minutes of July 4, 1993*

*Silvery Lane Road Report.* . . . A new gate has been installed but it was noted that it had been left open during a time when it should have been closed. THE IMPORTANCE OF A CLOSED AND LOCKED GATE CANNOT BE STRESSED ENOUGH. . . .

*Rainbow Lane Road Report.* . . . The sign describing when the gate should be locked has been removed as it was considered inappropriate to emphasize when residents are not there. . . .

*Gate Locking.* The Township requested that the Association remove the gate on Little Silver Lake Road. The request was supported by a legal opinion from the township's solicitor. Background on this situation was provided by both Dave Van Luven and Brad Bell. It was decided that several property owners from Little Silver Lake Road would discuss the matter directly with the township council. Brad agreed to organize this meeting with the assistance of Lois & Terry Matte, Al Webster and Ken Anderson.

**P.S.** Terry Matte, Al Webster, Dave Sheppard and Denton Wilson attended a council meeting on July 13, 1993 to resolve the question of the locked gate on Little Silver Lake Road. After some discussion, Council passed a motion giving LSLPOA permission to reinstall a gate at the original location. The gate must remain unlocked at all times. They also gave permission to install a new gate which can be locked east of the public access point. With the assistance of the road superintendent, Murray Gilpin and the reeve, Carl Ferguson, Brad Bell marked a location at the bottom of the hill that was acceptable.

This solution addresses Council's concern of having the lake accessible to township residents and our concern of being able to partially secure our property. Efforts will be made to reinstall the gate this summer in order that it can be closed during the periods when the gates on Fire Roads 5 and 6 are locked.

*From the Minutes of July 3, 1994*

*Gate Control:* Several members expressed concern at finding the gates open when they should be closed. Workmen coming in to work at various places were leaving the gates open. It is up to the individual having the work done to provide the workers with a key. Any member finding a gate open when it should be locked is instructed to LOCK IT.

On behalf of the Cottagers' Association Gail Standing attended a meeting held in Perth by the OPP detachment on "security". The emergency number for **Break-ins** is 1-800-3267-8919. Denton Wilson presented a report on Gail's behalf, copies were available for members. Highlights included the fact that break-ins are on the rise, very few are solved and the property returned, between 100-150 out-board motors of usually less than 10 H.P. are stolen annually and usually from the boat itself from the water. Police advise engraving motors, T.V., microwaves, etc. with your driver's license number which they can verify very easily.

*From the Minutes of July 2, 1995*

*Road reports.* Rainbow Lane (Fire Road 5) in the absence of Don Dubreuil by Dan Duhaime who stated that their road was open from May 24th until Thanksgiving.

Silvery Lane (Fire Road 6) by Denton Wilson explained again how our lock system worked and suggested (now that there are permanent residents on the Lake) that the gates be opened May 1st weekend rather than May 24th and to stay open on weekends from Labour Day until November 1st. It was decided that Fire Lane #6 would be open from May 1st but continue to close Thanksgiving Weekend. Fifteen people replied to a survey authored by Ed Filby and offered to be on a committee if and when the need arose to work on repairing the road.

*From the Minutes of July 7, 1996*

Dave [Sheppard, the President] then introduced out guests, Chief Gord Thompson and Doug Tysick from the South Sherbrooke Fire Department. Mr. Tysick spoke on By-Law changes to the fire regulations and also on several topics concerning the residents of Little Silver Lake.

The main one being what happens during the winter when our gates are locked. Road accessibility, smoke detectors (they should be electric and battery operated) the Rural Addressing System that is currently being worked on and finally the Hours of Burning with a permit and what happens if a fire starts whether or not you have a permit.

He also mentioned that Roy Shanks, Deputy Fire Chief of Perth would check fire extinguishers if anyone was interested.

*From the Minutes of July 12, 1998*

*Safety Concerns.* Mr. Fulby advised the membership there are numerous locations around the lake that have submerged rocks and trees. Don Adams stated that a letter was received from Mr. Joe Legari suggesting that possibly flag warnings could be constructed identifying submerged obstructions. The executive committee determined that flagging submerged objects will be somewhat difficult on a permanent basis. Mr. Powers added that if the Association was to take responsibility for warning of obstructions, it could very well be held liable in the event of an accident where no flag was positioned. It was agreed the Association would take no action on this issue.

The issue of beaver dams arose relating directly to submerged obstacles which were previously visible. An attempt has been made to remove the dams at both ends of the lake. The dams may be the cause of potential water stagnation in both lakes. It was recommended and agreed that the Lake Steward would form a body to determine and act upon desired lake levels. Denton Wilson, Ron Powers and Adrian Gervais volunteered to assist Jim Humphrey in this matter. It was further suggested that taking out the dams at the outlet may cause water to decrease drastically and possibly cause flooding of adjacent properties.

*From the Minutes of July 11, 1999*

Mr. [Keith] Kerr [Reeve] stated that policing has become a township responsibility and that staffing is at full capacity. A Community Policing Committee has been established and are looking for input and persons to assist. Programs that have been or will be implemented are Cottage Watch, Neighbourhood Watch and Seniors' Watch. Mr. Kerr also advised that water patrols have been initiated and will include all lakes in the Township, including the smaller lakes. In response to a question on the scope of the patrols, Mr. Kerr indicated that enforcement of all existing laws, boating or otherwise, will be the order of the day.

*From the Minutes of July 9, 2000*

GUEST SPEAKER – Detective Constable Doherty

(The notes to follow are based on the Secretary's best ability to follow the dialogue as it ensued.) Constable Doherty stated that the first cottage watch program came about in 1983 in South Porcupine. He stated that groups were interested in long-term security of their cottages. In 1998 the Ontario Government became involved and initiated a program called Rural Community Watch. Mr. Doherty stated that the OPP needed to get up to speed with the program and ultimately decided that the Cottage Watch Program should not be part of the community policing initiative. Cottage property theft became a part of the Keeo-Out initiative of the OPP, a division of the Break-and-Enter Division. Its focus for cottagers was and is to identify everything of value with an identifiable number. The OPP suggests that everything of value should be inscribed with a vehicle license plate number since it is easiest to trace the owner. Another suggestion by Mr. Doherty was to keep an inventory of the goods kept in the cottage over the winter months. But there was more involved and he stressed that this was only a small part of the overall program.

Constable Doherty remarked that the Cottage Watch Program was either a passive or an active initiative. He emphasized that either action should be registered with FOCA (Federation of Ontario Cottagers

Associations). FOCA has information that is pertinent to cottage associations and that we should avail ourselves of this information.

With respect to active cottage watch programs, volunteer teams make themselves available during winter months to check cottages in designated areas. Several associations have made use of the Community Crime Prevention Grant Program, which is a provincially funded initiative that has a pool of \$35 million. Associations such as ours can access funds to procure equipment necessary to properly check on our cottages and ensure some degree of security from break-in.

If we didn't want to take such an active approach to security there are more passive measures that may help. We can still apply for a grant to have signs placed on the roadways, as well as police boxes placed on the roadway entrances for concerns from cottages on suspicious activities. These activities may include unknown vehicles on the roads or any such activity that appears out of the norm.

Constable Doherty gave a short dissertation on crime statistics relating to cottages over the past several years. In 1998, there were 984 break-ins in the eastern region. After the introduction of cottage watch and other rural initiatives, the number of crimes was reduced by one-third to 675. It is expected that this year crimes in rural communities will be reduced by one-half of the 1998 numbers. Mr. Doherty stressed that we should not allow us to become crimes of opportunity and to do our part in protecting our properties. He strongly suggested that we register with FOCA and consider where we want to go next. His suggestion is to get signs and to place drop boxes for suspicious activities. No signatures are required for an incident placed in the drop box. It helps the police to identify trends only and gives them a starting point in the event of a break-in.

Detective Constable Doherty then thanked the members for granting him this opportunity to speak on this subject. President [Terry] Matte thanked Mr. Doherty for his presentation and his time on this weekend day.

[NEW BUSINESS] 1. Cottage Watch Program: The Association Executive will review the information given by Constable Doherty, investigate the matter more thoroughly and report back to the membership.

*From the Minutes of July 10, 2005*

**Old business.** Jim Humphrey reported on three items of business:

(a) *Public access to Little Silver Lake.* A submission to Tay valley Township has been made for a barrier to restrict access by non-residents to Little Silver Lake. Keyed access would be available to emergency services and residents. Currently, the municipality is awaiting a response from emergency services. The problems addressed by this measure include road erosions, invading species and large speeding boats. The proper parking area is not maintained, so that an unauthorized parking area is in use. Since it is a municipal access point, the township would pay the expenses of any changes that it approves. In answer to a query by T. Matte, J. Humphrey clarified that resident boat owners would have a key and would still be able to use the access.

**New business.**(a) *Thefts and vandalism.* There were five incidents on Little Silver Lake, including break-ins and theft of equipment. All occurrences should be reported to the police and to the executive of the Association, even if minor. Residents are encouraged to watch for suspicious activities; break-ins and vandalism are criminal offenses.

*From the Minutes of July 9, 2006*

**Business arising from the Minutes.** (a) *Public access to Little Silver lake boat launch.* The president [Walter Downs] outlined the very complex issue re a request to TVT Council to reduce access for large boats on LSL citing issues related to boat speed, water safety and the introduction of unwanted alien species such as zebra mussels. At the 2005 AGM, approval was given to approach TVTC proposing locked access but TVTC advised against this proposal and suggested reducing the opening of the ramp to 8 feet to allow emergency vehicle access but prevent access of large boats.



The issue was further complicated by Bylaw 452, dated Oct. 1, 1976 limiting boat trailer access which had never been enforced. TVTC agreed to the reduced 8 foot access. The executive presented a motion to approach TVT to limit access. During the discussion that followed, M. Jackson suggested that one solution could be to limit boat access to early summer entry, then be closed off. Concern was expressed by a number of boat owners who require access for their boats summer and fall.

The original motion was amended to add the phrase: *with due consideration to an alternative access for property owners* as follows: *The Executive proposes that the Association request Tay Valley Township to ENFORCE in a timely manner, the conditions of Section 10 of By-Law 452, dated October 1, 1976, as it applies to limiting boat trailer access to Little Silver Lake, with due consideration to an alternative access for property owners, then means and schedule to be determined in consultation with the Association Executive.* The motion was carried unanimously.

*From the Minutes of July 8, 2007*

**Old business.** 1. *Boat launch* Walter [Downs] briefly reviewed the boat launch decision and indicated that a decision had been made by Tay Valley Township (TVT) Council and this would be sent out to residents shortly. He indicated that TVT and Rideal valley Conservation Authority (RVCA) will be having an on site meeting shortly re the vegetation and a sign is being prepared. The President indicated he would report in the fall as to what has been done. He thanked Bruce McKeigan for providing launch statistics to the Council.

*From the Minutes of July 6, 2008*

**President's report.** While the boat launch issue has taken quite a bit of executive time, it now needs to be decided by Tay Valley Township Council which has a broader mandate to the whole community. As well other groups have an interest, such as Rideal Valley Conservation Authority because of watershed issues, the Ministry of Natural resources with regard to protection of the environment and the Federal Government because of the Shippinh Act.

... he [Walter Downs] attended the Ontario Provincial Police Liaison group that meets about twice a year. The OPP has issued pamphlets on safety and crime prevention and relies on "neighbourhood watch" to ensure that "rules of the road" are maintained on the lakes.

## **6. Public Access to Little Silver Lake**

Walter [Downs] opened the discussion with a statement that the association was not trying to ban motor boats from the lake or deny anyone access to the lake. The issue is trailer launching to hand launching.

The Executive presented the following motion:

*Whereas tay Valley Township Council has three options, to:*

- 1. uphold the bylaw (concerning access to Little Silver Lake)*
- 2. rescind the bylaw and replace it with a solution it will uphold*
- 3. ignore the bylaw, but make a clear and public decision to do so,*

*this Annual General Meeting refers the issue to Tay Valley Township Council for timely resolution.*

There followed considerable discussion. Terry Matte asked for clarification if the motion meant a reversal of the Association position to close the boat ramp to trailered boats. If not a change, he stated that the motion would not be satisfactory. Frank Johnson made three points: that the original motion took account of everyone's position, that TVTC was not very helpful in proposing the root ball and that TVTC is the right body to deal with it as our Association represents only the residents on the lakes. Frank Sammut said the motion asks TVTC to resolve the issue through whatever means is appropriate. He agreed that TVT Council is the proper place to sort it out.

Frank Johnson indicated that the preamble to the motion was from Susan Freeman and TVT Council. Susan Freeman corrected this statement and indicated that the words were from speaking notes she made for the June 17 Council [Committee] of the Whole (COW) but never used. The notes were distributed after

the meeting. She indicated that they were not as the result of any decision by the Council.

Pat Mills said there was a fourth option: that the township had met its obligation through the signage and no further action was required. Clarke Richmire commented this was not necessary since this fourth option is included in number 1. Adair Heuchen suggested that because the issue had become so contentious that it should revert to the township to resolve. She also thought that TVT could have other ideas as well as legal obligations. The Association is in the position of proposing to TVT but not deciding. Janet Conlin agreed that the issue should go back to TVT and stated that she thought that the executive had done a good job.

Len Schmidt indicated that when he bought his lot in 1978, it was his understanding with the developer that he could launch a powered boat from the site. Alan Webster pointed out that it was difficult for some to hand launch a boat without trailer access. Denton Wilson responded that the intent was not to deny people the opportunity to launch boats but to keep it to hand-launched boats which is what he does. Another person stated that it was not a very good ramp anyway.

After further discussion, Brian Hicks moved, seconded by Janet Conlin, that the preamble be deleted and that it be amended to read: *“This Annual General Meeting refers the issue to Tay Valley Township Council for timely resolution.”*

Al Webster asked if this meant there would be no position from the Association on this issue. Walter Downs indicated the Association would have no further input. Ed Barbeau indicated that the executive was aware of the strong desire of many residents to put this issue behind them so that efforts could be spent on other issues also of concern to the lake such as water quality. The vote on the amended motion was then taken. 42 supported the motion and 4 were opposed. The motion was carried.

*From the Minutes of July 12, 2009*

**3. Business arising from the Minutes of the 2008 AGM** The assembly in 2008 referred the boat issue to Tay Valley Township for “timely resolution”. The President [Eileen Barbeau] reported that the Township erected a sign referencing bylaw concerning the launching of boats. Minutes of TVT Council meetings are posted on its website.

*From the Minutes of July 10, 2011*